



Hardwood Initiative Cost-Share Program

Cost Assistance for Hardwood Management

Forestry Topic 71

July 2023

The Hardwood Initiative Cost-Share Program provides Virginia forest landowners with financial assistance to conduct hardwood management practices recommended by a forestry professional. Carrying out the practices will improve the forest resource for the landowner and the Commonwealth.

Who is Eligible

Any private forest landowner may apply, including individuals, corporations, limited liability corporations (LLCs) and non-profit organizations. Before applying, applicants must meet with a forestry professional, either from the Department of Forestry (DOF) or a trained consulting forester, to establish objectives, conduct a site assessment and create a management plan that includes recommendations for eligible management practices.

What Qualifies

Cost share is available starting at 5 acres of forestland up to a maximum of 100 acres per tract, per year and up to 100 acres per landowner per year. The cost-share rate is 75% of the total project cost or the per acre rate (see table), whichever is less. For most forestland, multiple practices may be needed over a 10-year time frame to fully achieve objectives.

This cost share cannot be combined with another cost share to complete the same practice on the same acre, but can be combined with the Hardwood Initiative Tax Credit Program to reimburse expenses not covered by the cost share. Funding follows the Virginia fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).

Get Started

Interested landowners should contact DOF or a professional consulting forester for suitable management recommendations. If proposals include practices eligible for incentives, assistance with the application process can also be provided. To get started, visit DOF's "[Find a Forester](#)" web page.



Eligible Practices	Rate: 75% of Cost Not to Exceed
Competing Vegetation Control (invasive or native)	\$100 per acre
Crop Tree Release	\$140 per acre
Mid-Story Removal	\$175 per acre
Prescribed Burning (including firebreak construction)	\$35 per acre
Stand Marking	\$57 per acre
Timber Stand Improvement	\$175 per acre

For more information about services or programs in your area, contact your local DOF office:

www.DOF.Virginia.gov



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